

VOLUNTEER CORNER

Volunteer Intern Learns How Local Government Works



Volunteer Intern Shane Greenwalt

Shane Greenwalt, a student of the Huxley Environmental program through Western Washington University, has been a volunteer intern with the City of Sequim since last fall. He will graduate from his program this month, but continue to serve his internship through the summer before starting a

graduate program in business.

During his internship, Shane is soaking up as much information as possible, while helping City staff with projects. His most recent task has been to study the Water Reclamation Facility and increase the information available on the City's website. He has also helped to research irrigation rights grants, develop a parks enhancement grant program, and work on sign codes.

"The most valuable experience for me has been learning how city and local governments work," Shane said. "I now understand how many moving parts it takes to makes things happen, and I think I see the interlinking parts more clearly."

Shane had already served in one internship that gave him good scientific based field work, when he felt he wanted to focus more on policy development. He contacted Community Development Director Chris Hugo and they were able to set up a mutually beneficial program.

"I'm not exactly sure what I want to do when I graduate, but no matter what your politics are, a lot of organizations will be switching to sustainable business practices, so I feel there will be good options," Shane said.

To learn more about how you can volunteer with the City of Sequim, contact City Clerk Karen Kuznek-Reese at 681-3428 or kkuznek@sequimwa.gov.